



CALPEEK

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

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VOL. XX
No. 12

MAR. 23, 1998

CAMPAIGN '98: THE BLAME GAME FROM 22nd CD RACE. GOP FORMS A CIRCULAR FIRING SQUAD.

Editor's note: We haven't seen the *blame game* played this way since former GOP Assembly Speaker Curt Pringle lost control of the lower house back in '96. So here's more analysis of why Lois Capps(D) defeated GOP Assemblyman Tom Bordonaro on Mar. 10th...

...If you believe DC-based columnist Robert Novak, a big part of the blame should go to former GOP Pres. Jerry Ford, who called Bordonaro "an extremist." Capps' savvy media consultant, Bill Carrick, turned that quote into an effective :30-sec. tv hit. Other sources, mostly anonymous, put the blame on Pringle, who backed Bordo's GOP primary rival Brooks Firestone. Still other anonymous GOP sources placed the loss of 22nd CD at the feet of Calif. Republican Party Chair Michael Schroeder...

...But GOP consultant Steve Presson, who was the lead consultant for Bordo, told Calpeek he believes Bordo's campaign was bucking an historical trend: *The Widow Factor*. Prior to Mar. 10th, 36 of 38 widows were elected to replace their late husbands in Congress. The last one here in Calif. prior to Capps (and now Bono in the 44th CD) was Sala Burton, who replaced her late husband, the legendary Phil Burton(D-S.F.) in 1983...

...With Capps' lead now increasing due to more AV and provisionals being counted, here's what our sources say were the other reasons why Bordonaro lost: 1) The independent expenditure tv campaign of Gary Bauer, who turned abortion into a key issue (the ads pushed moderate GOPers into Capps' arms); 2) The bruising primary with Firestone; 3) Money --- Bordo was outspent by Capps; 4) "Sunshine in America" - the feeling among voters that the U.S. is in very good shape; 5) The absentee screw-up. And Presson says there was a

delay of 10-days (not 3-4 as Schroeder said last week) in getting out the 1st AV mailer to GOP voters after the primary; 6) The Jerry Ford tv hit; and 7) the *term limit* brouhaha...

...As for November, sources think Bordo will have a tough time beating Capps. However, Bordo probably won't have Gary Bauer around; the *widow factor* may be diminished; and Bordo won't have a bloody primary fight. On the other hand, incumbency is tough to overcome and U.S. Rep. Lois Capps(D-Santa Barbara) will be spending most weekends at home. Stay tuned...

NEW FIELD POLL ON THE GOVERNOR'S RACE

Here are the results of the latest poll on the governor's race by Mervin Field. 1,143 likely voters, Mar. 5-15. In the open primary: Dan Lungren(R) 24%, U.S. Rep. Jane Harman(D) 17%, businessman Al Checchi(D) 15% and Lt. Gov. Gray Davis(D) 11%, others 5% and undecided 28%. In 1-on-1 matches: Lungren 42% vs. Checchi 39%; Lungren 42% vs. Davis 41%; Lungren 43% vs. Harman 41%...

CAMPAIGN '98: DEMO CONNELL ISN'T TAKING ANYTHING FOR GRANTED IN REELECTION BID.

Editor's note: Democratic Controller Kathleen Connell is a heavy favorite to win reelection for another term as one of Calif.'s key fiscal officers. Her GOP opponent is San Mateo Co. Sup. Ruben Barrales. Here is our brief update & analysis...

...Four years ago Kathleen Connell steamrolled past two other *male* Demos (Don Perata and Rusty Areias) to win the primary with 48% and then went on to beat conservative anti-tax lawmaker Tom McClintock(R) by a 48.33% vs. 46.05% margin. Connell relied in part on her *deep pocketed* husband (now ex) to bankroll her campaign. She went up to Sacto without many friends and four years later things haven't change. She's still a *loner*, with few political allies...

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...There have been some negative stories written about her, but she appears to have *teflon* coating - at least so far. Her name ID is 39% and of that, 34% is positive vs. 5% negative. As Connell begins this campaign she still has a debt of about \$2 million left over from 1994, with about \$1 million in the bank for Campaign '98. She's still trying to get the legislature and governor to give her the authority to do performance audits on departments other than her own (controller, BOE and Franchise Tax Bd.), but that hasn't happened yet...

...Connell's campaign team is seasoned and very good. Media consultant is Mandy Grunwald, one of the best; The Feldman Group handles polling; Marla Romash is consulting on press/news media relations; and Fred Register will handle daily operations through the primary. This team will treat Barrales seriously...

...Barrales' effort in '98 is really more about running statewide again in 2002. After switching from the treasurer's race to this one, he formally announced his candidacy Mar. 16th & 17th in L.A. and Palo Alto. It's an uphill battle, but Barrales is the *American dream*, the son of Mexican immigrants who hopes to play a major role in bringing new immigrant voters back to the GOP. He is Dan Lungren's key link with Latino voters. As a source put it, "He's the poster boy to reach out to Hispanics." That's the positive spin, but with Prop. 227 on the June ballot, Barrales could be in for a *Mission: Impossible* situation...

...Barrales' big problem is not with Democrats or independents: he's pro-choice and was opposed to 187. But such positions don't sit well with the GOP's right wing. Barrales got a lucky break Mar. 18th when a court tossed conservative rival Snow Hume off the statewide ballot because he's also running for an office in Orange Co. Despite his moderate views, Barrales has been endorsed by Lungren, former Gov. George Deukmejian, former Pres. Jerry Ford, Jack Kemp and Dan Quayle - plus others...

...Barrales lead consultant is Kevin Spillane, while Public Opinions Strategies will handle polling. Brian McAndrews is the cmp. mgr. Barrales' name ID is 9% statewide, but if he can get Latinos to cross party lines in both the primary and general, this contest could be closer than some insiders think. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '98: ODDS & ENDS FROM AROUND CALIF.

Editor's note: Here are some new developments worth noting about Campaign '98...

◆ **Governor's Race** - Like his two Demo rivals, Lt. Gov. Gray Davis also selected *education* as his key issue when he formally announced his candidacy for governor Mar. 12th & 13th. Davis' key asset in this campaign is his experience. He's the *been there, done that* Demo candidate. COS to Gov. Jerry Brown, State Assemblyman, Controller and now LG. It's an impressive bio and just from the standpoint of knowing what to do once he takes office, if he should be elected, there won't be any *OJT* required. Davis' problem is that he's not very charismatic and he has to raise money the old fashioned way --- as opposed to having deep pockets. The tag line on his new statewide radio ad says it best: *experience money can't buy*...

...Davis, U.S. Rep. Jane Harman and businessman Al Checchi didn't have to battle each other for an endorsement at the Calif. Demo Party's annual convention in L.A. Mar. 20-22. The CDP Executive Board decided against allowing convention delegates to vote on pre-primary endorsements for statewide offices...

◆ **U.S. Senate Race - Some Poll Comparisons.** The *S.F. Examiner's* survey, conducted by Mason-Dixon Political/Media Research, Feb. 19-21, 444 likely voters; and the Field Poll, Mar. 5-15:

	<u>Mason/Dixon</u>	<u>Field Poll</u>
Barbara Boxer(D)	41%	43%
Matt Fong(R)	24%	12%
Darrell Issa(R)	11%	15%
Frank Riggs(R)	4%	4%
Undecided	20%	21% + 5% other

...In comparing the two polls, over 2-3 weeks Fong has dropped 12 pts. That's the bad news. The good news is that he continues to give Boxer the toughest general election race. In the Field Poll's 1-on-1 matches, it's like this: Boxer 46% vs. Fong 44%; Boxer 48% vs. Issa 42%; and Boxer 49% vs. Riggs 37%. Another conclusion: even though Issa has come up from zero to 15%, when compared to what U.S. Rep. Jane Harman (D) did in just 3 weeks, something is not clicking with Issa's campaign --- whether it's message, mechanics or whatever. Giving the millions he's spent, Issa should be

way ahead of his GOP rivals by now...

♦ **Attorney General's Race** - Lots of folks in law enforcement are still shaking their heads, wondering why on earth GOP AG candidate Dave Stirling would bash the FBI. His remarks on Mar. 11th just didn't sit well with many in the law enforcement community, especially when Stirling went after the FBI about probing possible corruption in the Capitol. "Stirling may have made points with folks who think Pat Nolan was innocent, but that's about it," one source said. Nolan and a number of other politicians and lobbyists were nailed in a huge FBI/DOJ sting in the late 1980s. A big Mike Capizzi supporter, Ventura Co. DA Michael Bradbury, wrote a letter to the *L.A. Times*, which read in part: "Dave Stirling's criticism of a justified and legitimate effort by the FBI to investigate and prosecute public corruption is nothing short of astounding. He has sent a clear message that if he is elected Calif.'s AG corrupt politicians will have little to fear from him." Even some neutral observers think this was a major goof by the usually cautious Stirling...

♦ **Eastin Vs. Tuchman** - There are actually 7 candidates running for Superintendent of Public Instruction, but the contest seems to be centering on incumbent Delaine Eastin and Gloria Matta Tuchman, who ran in '94 and finished 5th. This time Tuchman's profile is much higher because she's co-chairing the YES on 227 campaign to end bilingual education. Polling in late January for Tuchman by Moore Information (800 r/v) showed Eastin ahead: **32% vs. 27%** for Tuchman, with **41%** undecided. None of the other candidates were thrown into the mix. But when a "push question" was asked, comparing Eastin (NO on 227) to Tuchman (YES on 227), Tuchman leads: **57% vs. 29%**...

CAMPAIGN '98: UPDATE ON U.S. HOUSE CONTESTS.

Editor's note: Here's another update on key U.S. House races in Calif...

☒ **44th CD** - Compared to what just went on in the 22nd CD, this special election in Riverside County to replace the late Sony Bono(R-Palm Springs) is meek and mild. The clear favorite is Bono's widow, Mary. She has 3 GOP opponents and 2 Demos. The best known of all her challengers is actor Ralph Waite(D), but he hasn't been around much because he's appearing in a Broadway play. But Waite did one very smart

thing recently: he signed the *term limits pledge*. The special is set for April 7th, with a June 2nd runoff...

☒ **43rd CD** - U.S. Rep. Ken Calvert(R-Riverside) will have a serious primary challenge from GOPER Joe Khoury of Riverside, who ran against Calvert in '92 and '94. In the last match-up, Khoury nearly pulled an upset, but lost 51% to 49%. Back then, Calvert was caught up in a *hooker-gate* situation...

☒ **24th CD** - Deep pocketed GOP businessman Randy Hoffman got a last minute surprise: he'll have some stiff competition in the June primary from former L.A. City Commissioner Joe Gelman, a conservative activist from Van Nuys. For the last few years Gelman has been writing a column for the *L.A. Daily News*, so he has good name ID in the SF Valley area. He was one of the leading advocates for Prop. 209 back in 1996 and is pro-life. He also served in the Israeli army as a paratrooper. Hoffman, 44, is a GOP moderate. They've already traded shots with one another: Gelman says Hoffman doesn't fit the 24th CD profile vs. Hoffman saying the same thing about Gelman. It will get much more explosive than this --- trust me on this one. FYI: U.S. Rep. Buck McKeon(R-Santa Clarita) has endorsed Hoffman. The 24th CD is held by freshman Demo U.S. Rep. Brad Sherman, who is a favorite to win reelection in '98...

☒ **26th CD** - Next door to Sherman in the 26th CD is U.S. Rep. Howard Berman(D), who will have a Demo primary battle with San Fernando Mayor Raul Godinez II. Berman is a heavy favorite...

CALPEEK'S CALENDAR OF POLITICAL EVENTS

Mar. 23	Campaign reports are due.
Apr. 3-13	CA Legislative Easter recess.
Apr. 7	9th CD & 44th CD special election.
Apr. 8	Calif. AFL-CIO Endorsing conference, S.F.
Apr. 9	17th annual Edmund G. "Pat" Brown Institute Awards Dinner, L.A.
Apr. 14	Long Beach muni elections.
Apr. 17	17th annual <i>The Party's Not Over!</i> bipartisan benefit at Bimbo's 365 Club, S.F...
Apr. 24-25	Orange Co. Demo Party Convention, Westcoast Anaheim Hotel, Anaheim.
May 4	Last day to register to vote in June primary.
May 21	Campaign reports are due.
June 2	CA Primary Election.

CALPEEK'S INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few political items worth noting...

■ **Privatization of Police** - Keep your eyes on SCA 30 by State Sen. Bill Lockyer, the frontrunning Demo in the AG's race. This is the #1 legislative priority with cops & public safety groups because this constitutional amendment bans the privatization of public safety services -- no private jails or prisons, prison guards, cops, fire services, etc...

■ **New GOP Team In CA Senate** - Given his public statements last year, it should not have been such a shock when it was announced Mar. 16th that Senate GOP Leader Rob Hurr of Garden Grove had stepped aside. New GOP Senate Leader is Ross Johnson of Orange Co., with Jim Brulte taking over Johnson's old job as GOP Senate Caucus Chair...

■ **Running on a Political Ticket** - Assemblyman Brooks Firestone(R-Santa Barbara) is pushing ACA 31 to have the Governor and Lt. Governor run as a ticket, instead of separately as they now do. The bill has been assigned to the GO Cmt., but no hearing date has been set. SOS Bill Jones(R) and former Acting SOS Tony Miller(D) are in support, but that's about it...

■ **First Poll in L.A. Co. Sheriffs Race** - Sample size 600, Mar. 11-15 by Fairbank Maslin Maullin for candidate Lee Baca. Initial 4-way race: Sheriff Sherman Block 36%, Lee Baca 11%, William Baker 5% and Patrick Gomez 4%. The poll also showed Block's reelect number at 36% (45% for someone else)...

■ **How Many Ballots Will You Get?** - Thanks to CA's open primary law, if you're a registered Demo or Goper you'll get at least 2 ballots. The main ballot will consist of statewide offices, U.S. Senate, U.S. House, Legislative, ballot measures and local elections. The second ballot will be for the election of political party county central committee members...

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NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook. We've got a ton of these notes in our file...

● Paulette Bruce-Miller has been hired by the Sacto office of Stoorza, Ziegaus & Metzger as director of marketing and PR...

● A sad note: the Santa Monica Evening Outlook is no more. Copley Press, Inc., closed the paper on Mar. 14th after more than 123 years of publishing...

● Terry Davies, director of legislative affairs in Sacto for Louisiana-Pacific, has been promoted to corporate mgr./govt. relations for L-P in DC...

● The GOP polling firm of Charlton Research has moved its DC office to 1730 Rhode Island Ave., NW, Ste. 1109, Wash DC 20036. ☎ (202)530-0010...

● Planned Parenthood/L.A. has named Nancy Sasaki as its new president/ceo...

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● **The National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League(NARAL)** is hiring a full-time political organizer to be responsible for the development and maintenance of the grassroots organizing activities of NARAL's Southern Calif. office; to assist in coordinating NARAL's political activities in the 1998 Calif. elections. Applicants should have previous organizing or campaign experience. Resumes to Lisa Presta, 10536 Culver Blvd., Ste. B, Culver City, CA 90232. Fax: (310)204 - 6942...

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